October is National Arts & Humanities Month

Did You Know?

For 45 years, **Americans for the Arts** has been dedicated to representing and serving local communities and creating opportunities for every American to participate in and appreciate all forms of the arts. **Americans for the Arts** is the chief national nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the arts in America, with over 5,000 individual and organizational members and stakeholders, and offices located in both Washington D.C. and New York. On their website, **www.artsusa.org**, in addition to finding many useful arts advocacy resources and research tools, they have also prepared a list of *101 Things to Do to Celebrate Arts & Humanities Month*. Excerpted here are 16 of those:

95. Raffle off a donation of art or literature from someone in the community, with proceeds going to a local art program.

74. Take up a musical instrument – or rekindle your interest in one.

6. Customize your computer screen-saver to remind you that it is National Arts and Humanities Month.

42. Recommend that local businesses print October is National Arts & Humanities Month on receipts or automated mailings.

73. Read the arts section of the newspaper first.

59. Include the National Arts & Humanities Month logo in your newsletter.

12. Invite local musicians to perform "brown bag" lunchtime concerts in your public square.

21. Ask local museums to give a "behind the scenes" tour of how exhibits are put together.

45. Make and distribute National Arts & Humanities Month lapel pins.

78. Email everyone you know and encourage them to participate in the month-long celebration.

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39. Donate used books to local schools and libraries and encourage others in the community to do the same.

94. Visit a museum.

70. Write a letter to your Member of Congress listing events in the district during the month.

35. Create a bumper sticker for National Arts & Humanities Month. If you don't specify a year, it can be used again!

46. Organize a storytelling session for people of all ages to share personal tales at local bookstores, libraries, or schools.

69. Advertise a cultural event in the personals: "In search of art lover. Meet at [place] and [time] for an evening sure to excite you!"

Visit Americans for the Arts at **www.artsusa.org** for information on how you can learn more about the arts in America, and to find out the other 85 things you can do to celebrate Arts & Humanities Month!